



**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 6, 2019 / 6:00 pm**

- **CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 PM
- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- **ROLL CALL:** Martell, Spanjers, Bissen, Pfiffner, Walsh
- **ACTION TO CHANGE AGENDA:** None

1. Consent Agenda: Motion made by Martell, Second by Spanjers. Unanimous.

All items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

1.1 Minutes:
July 2, 2019

1.2 Bills Payable Through: Aug 2, 2019

1.3 Consolidated Balance Sheet July 31, 2019

2. Water/Waste Water/City Engineer Report:

- 2.1 Portable Pump: Matt Vetsch recommended a portable pump which would help manage water during heaving rains coming into the lift station and overpowering the plant. The cost of the pump is \$3,200. Motion to purchase the pump made by Spanjers. Second by Martell. Unanimous.
- 2.2 Matt Vetsch discussed the yearly inspection of the sewer pipe lines which was completed by RCT.
- 2.3 Tractor Repairs: Matt Vetsch discussed the condition of the Tractor. When they had to stir the harvester for samples for bio-solids, the tractor had a fuel leak. They were not able to use the tractor so they needed to rent another tractor. Vetsch and Tom Kirchoff discussed the poor condition of the tractor and the need for repairs each year.

3. Library/City Hall/City Center Report: Barb Bissen provided an update on the hiring of the new Library Director. Kirsten Plumber will be the new Director and will be working part time until De Anna resigns the middle of September. Kirsten will then take over as the new Director.

4. Police Dept./City Attorney Report: Police Chief Schuldt reported the new pedestrian signs have been put out. He also provided a report on the July 2019 rain damages. The County has enough damages to qualify for funding so we will be working with them to provide the damage costs at Como Falls and Potters Alley. Schuldt also provided an update on the Como Falls Restoration project and noted the invoices would be coming in and then we will be working on submitting all of the reimbursement information.

5. Streets / Maintenance Report: Matt Vetsch reported that the Chip Sealing would begin the following week and noted they would be getting the streets ready. Mayor Walsh discussed the plans for the Pool Parking Lot. At the last meeting the Council had discussed bringing in some fill to raise the road before seal coating. A motion was made to seal coat the lot. While assessing the lot, Walsh and Matt Vetsch had both agreed there was no need to raise the lot before chip sealing. After a discussion the Council decided it was necessary to add 2-3 inches of fill before seal coating. Motion was made by Martell to amend the motion to seal coat and to add 2-3 inches of fill before adding a double seal coat. Second by Bissen. Aye: Martell, Bissen, Walsh. Nay: Spanjers, Pfiffner.

6. Recreation Board Report: None.

7. Planning Commission / Zoning Report: Pfiffner reported 2 new Zoning Applications. The Zoning Committee met and Matt Vetsch, Cindy Pfiffner, Jerry Martell and Lance Ross attended. Jonah Ross was not in attendance. The first was for a steel frame garage and it met all the requirements and setbacks. The Zoning Committee voted to approve the permit. The second permit was for a concrete pad with roof and open sides. The Zoning Committee also voted to approve the application. Motion to approve Zoning applications by Pfiffner. Second by Martell. Unanimous.

8. New Business:

- 8.1 Merchants Bank Accounts: Becky Zoellner from Merchants Bank informed the Council that the City Checking account would need to be changed from a personal account to a business account which is a mandatory change. She provided information on other services including Positive Pay and ACH Filter/Blocks that are offered to safeguard the checking account. She also recommended that the City change their Money Market Pledging Status to the Insured Cash Sweep. This would provide a better return on investment. Spanjers made a motion to move the Money Market into the Insured Cash Sweep account and to add the Fraud Positive Pay and ACH Filter/Block Fraud Protection.

- Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.
- 8.2** Ball Park Project: Drew Weiser requested permission from the Council to build a rooftop over the City Ball Park Dugouts. This is part of his Eagle Scout Project and would not require funding. Motion for permission to complete the project made by Martell, Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.
- 8.3** Ball Park Wiring: Matt Vetsch noted that the electrical service pole at the Ball Park had been backed into. Vetsch said if they would like to repair the electrical service box they would no longer be able to put the box on the pole because Xcel would not allow the location. Josh Ross recommended putting a new service along the fence on a separate wood structure near the opening of the fence. This would also help with events being held at the park as currently the wiring is a hazard. Josh Ross would donate his time to the project. Josh Ross also recommended putting in a new pole to light between the field and concessions. Martell discussed funds that were set aside in the General Fund for the Ball Park Electrical back in 1999. The cost of the project electrical box would be \$2,000. Martell made a motion to use funds set aside in the General Fund and use towards the electrical box and light project. Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.
- 8.4** La Crescent Animal Rescue: Police Chief Schuldt discussed our current agreement with Amanda Bennett and noted that the City has been very happy with our current arrangement. He recommended the city not enroll with the La Crescent Animal Rescue and continue with Amanda Bennett. He also noted the cost for 2020 would stay the same. Spanjers made a motion to continue working with Amanda Bennett and not enter into an agreement with LAR. Second by Bissen. Unanimous.

9. Old Business:

- 9.1** City Utility Bills: Clerk Martell provided a summary of the County Assessment of Utility Bills. After a discussion the Council decided to table the discussion regarding the City Utility Bills.
- 9.2** 2018 Financial Statements: Motion to accept the 2018 Financial Statements made by Martell. Second by Pfiffner. Unanimous.
- 9.3** Curb Stop Policy/Ordinance: Council decided to table for the September 4th meeting when Skip Wieser will address the Curb Stop Policy/Ordinance
- 9.4** MN Basic Code: Council decided to table the discussion.
- 9.5** Water Improvements: Council decided to table the discussion until after the Budget Hearings.

10. Council Member's Comments/Community Input:

Martell: Would like to have a better assessment of the pool parking lot and road to find out what the cause is of all of the problems with the drainage and moisture.

Spanjers: Would like to find out who is responsible for the cost of sidewalk repairs. Ben also discussed the operations of the Swimming Pool, and the group discussed the need to improve the supervision and structure at the Pool.

Bissen: None

Pfiffner: Asked about the Council committee reports and why the Council members are not being contacted and included in Committee updates.

11. Mayor's Comments: Meet the Mayor – July 17

12. Staff Correspondence: Clerk Martell noted that everything has been caught up and entered into Banyon and she thanked Matt Vetsch for doing such a great job in the interim keeping everything organized.

13. Correspondence Received:

14. Announcements: Budget meetings scheduled for August 20th and August 27th at 6 PM at the Fire Station

15. Next Council Meeting: September 3rd, 2019

16. Items for next Agenda: Utility Bills, Curb Stop and Sidewalk Policies, MN Basic Code, Water Improvements

17. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Bissen, Second by Spanjers. Unanimous.